

England [Miscellaneous Public Documents - III. George III.]

B.S.96/2(3)

THE HUMBLE
A D D R E S S

OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

The Lords Spiritual and Temporal,
in Parliament assembled,

PRESENTED TO

H I S M A J E S T Y,

On *Friday, December 14, 1792.*

W I T H

H I S M A J E S T Y ' S

M O S T G R A C I O U S

A N S W E R.

L O N D O N :

Printed by CHARLES EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN,
Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1792.

Die Veneris, 14° Decembris, 1792.

Ordered by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament assembled, That the Address of this House, presented to His Majesty this Day, and His Majesty's most Gracious Answer thereunto, be forthwith printed, and published.

*George Rose,
Cler' Parliamentor'.*



The Humble ADDRESS of the Right Honourable the LORDS Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament assembled.

Die Jovis, 13° Decembris, 1792.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg Leave to return Your Majesty our humble and dutiful Acknowledgments for Your Majesty's most Gracious Speech from the Throne.

PERMIT us to assure Your Majesty, that, under Circumstances which require the united Vigilance and Exertion of all the Branches of the Legislature, to preserve to Your Majesty's Subjects the Continuance of those Advantages which they have hitherto enjoyed; it is a great Satisfaction to us that Your Majesty, by meeting us in Parliament at this Conjuncture, has afforded us an Opportunity of manifesting our Loyalty to Your Majesty, and our Zeal for the dearest Interests of our Country.

WE have seen with the greatest Concern that the seditious Practices which were the Objects of Your Majesty's late Proclamation, and which were so strongly condemned by the Declaration of both Houses of Parliament, and by the general Sentiments of the People, have of late been more openly renewed, and with increased Activity. We deeply lament that Spirit of Tumult and Disorder, the natural Consequence of such Practices, which has shewn itself in different Acts of Riot and Insurrection, requiring the Interposition of a Military Force in Support of the Civil Magistrate. We are sensible that the Industry employed to excite Discontent on various Pretexts, and in different Parts of the Kingdom, has proceeded from a settled Design to attempt the Destruction of our happy Constitution, and the Subversion of all Order and Government; and we learn with the utmost Indignation that this Design has been pursued in Connection and Concert with Persons in Foreign Countries.

WE highly applaud the wise and generous Conduct adopted by Your Majesty in observing a strict Neutrality in the present War on the Continent, and in abstaining from any Interference with respect to the internal Affairs of *France*: But we beg Leave to assure Your Majesty, that we fully participate in that serious Uneasiness so justly felt by Your Majesty on Account of the strong and increasing Indications which have appeared in *France* of an Intention to excite Disturbances in other Countries, to disregard the Rights of Neutral Nations, and to pursue Views of Conquest and Aggrandizement, as well as to adopt towards Your Majesty's Allies the States General, who have observed the same Neutrality with Your Majesty, Measures neither conformable to the Law of Nations, nor to the positive Stipulations of existing Treaties.

WE acknowledge with the deepest Gratitude Your Majesty's paternal Care for the Security and Happiness of Your People, which has led Your Majesty, on the present Occasion, to have Recourse to those Means of Prevention and internal Defence with which Your Majesty is entrusted by Law ; and also to augment Your Majesty's Naval and Military Force ; and we concur with Your Majesty in the Persuasion that these Exertions are necessary in the present State of Affairs, and are best calculated both to maintain internal Tranquillity, and to render a firm and temperate Conduct effectual for preserving the Blessings of Peace ; an Object which, however important in itself, is no otherwise desirable than as it can be attained consistently with the Security of these Kingdoms, and with the faithful Performance of Engagements which we are bound equally by Interest and Honour to fulfil.

WE congratulate Your Majesty on the brilliant Successes of the *British* Arms in *India*, under the able Conduct of the Marquis *Cornwallis*, and more especially on the Termination of the War in that Country by an advantageous and honourable Peace, to the Terms of which we look with peculiar Satisfaction, from their Tendency to secure the future Tranquillity of the *British* Dominions. We shall now apply our Attention to the forming such Arrangements for the future Government of those valuable Possessions, as Experience and Deliberation may recommend to us, with a View to the Prosperity of that Country, and to the Advantages which it may afford to the *British* Commerce and Revenue.

WE beg Leave to assure Your Majesty, that we feel it to be our bounden Duty, and that it shall be the Object of our most immediate Consideration, to adopt all proper Measures for enforcing Obedience to the Laws, and for repressing every Attempt to disturb the Peace and Tranquillity of this Kingdom. We are not ignorant that on the Result of our Deliberations at this Moment, depend the present Security and permanent Prosperity of our Country. We well know that we can in no Manner better provide for these important and interesting Objects, than by manifesting in all our Conduct that affectionate Attachment which is so justly due to Your Majesty from every One of Your Subjects, and which is deeply impressed upon our Hearts ; and by directing all our Counsels to the Defence and Maintenance of the Constitution so dear to a People whose Liberties it has long protected, and whose Happiness it has essentially promoted. In endeavouring to preserve and transmit to our Posterity these inestimable Blessings, we know from uniform Experience that we may be assured of Your Majesty's Co-operation and Assistance ; and we are confident that the united Efforts of Your Majesty and Your Parliament for this Purpose will be rendered completely effectual by the decided Support of a Free and Loyal People.

His MAJESTY's most Gracious ANSWER.

MY LORDS,

I Thank you for this very loyal and dutiful Address. Your Expressions of affectionate Attachment to My Person, and of Zeal for the Maintenance of the Constitution, are peculiarly acceptable to Me at this Conjuncture : And I am satisfied that, whatever may be the Course of future Events, the Spirit and Loyalty, which you have manifested on this Occasion, will be productive of the happiest Consequences to My People.

F I N I S.

